

Thank you for your interest in career opportunities with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Marine Operations Center. Enclosed you will find information on pre-employment medical screening, benefits, career opportunities, salaries, and the NOAA Fleet. All open positions with the NOAA fleet are now advertised on the USAJobs website ([www.usajobs.opm.gov](http://www.usajobs.opm.gov)) for positions within the Federal government and on the COOL system ([www.jobs.doc.gov](http://www.jobs.doc.gov)) for positions within the Department of Commerce. Applications will only be accepted online through the COOL System. For positions requiring certifications or licence, you may later be asked to submit a copy of the certification. Veterans will be asked submit a copy of their DD214 to qualify veterans' preference. All positions require drug screening and background investigations. Further information can be found on the following web pages:

East Coast

<http://www.easc.noaa.gov/hrd/wmjobs.htm>

West Coast

<http://www.wasc.noaa.gov/wasc/HRD/wmjobs.htm>

USAJobs - [www.usajobs.opm.gov](http://www.usajobs.opm.gov)

COOL (Commerce Opportunities OnLine) - [www.jobs.doc.gov](http://www.jobs.doc.gov)

Please contact the Marine Operations Division - Atlantic at (757) 441-6206, or Marine Operation Division - Pacific at (206) 553-4548, if you have any questions.

## Pre-employment medical screening

All perspective employees undergo a pre-employment medical and dental examination, at the government's expense. The candidate must be in generally good physical health in order to be employed. Correctable medical and dental conditions have to be resolved prior to employment. Below are some of the physical conditions that MAY disqualify the candidate from employment. Any questions should be addressed to the Medical Office:

East Coast: 757-441-6320

West Coast: 260-553-8704

Chronic health problems

Severe allergies

Significant hearing loss

Disabilities (type and extent will be limiting factor)

Cancer

Diabetes (requiring medication)

Substance abuse (drugs, alcohol)

Seizure Disorder (i.e. epilepsy, head injury)

Eye Problems (color-blind (deck positions only), monocular, etc.)

Asthma (inhalers, steroid pills or shots)

Significant dental problems

Arthritis (osteoarthritis or rheumatoid)

High blood pressure (poorly controlled with medications)

Peripheral Vascular Disease (arterial or venous in origin)

Hepatitis

Thyroid Disease

Depression

Back Surgery/pain

Heart diseases

Lung diseases

Kidney diseases

Liver diseases

Skin (significant) diseases

## Benefits

**Medical:** All wage marine employees are covered under the Beneficiary Medical Program (BMP) which covers the employee 100% for all medical and dental at no cost to the employee. When a permanent or term employee is hired, he may select from a wide variety of health programs (i.e., Blue Cross, Mail Carriers, etc.) for the employee's dependents. You can choose from Fee-for-Service (FFS) plans, regardless of where you live, or Plans offering a Point of Service (POS) Product and Health Maintenance Organizations (HMO) if you live within the area serviced by the plan. This coverage is partially paid for by the employee. *A temporary employee hired may elect dependent coverage after the first year of employment, but the employee pays 100% of the cost.*

**Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS):** This retirement system is a three-tiered retirement plan provided for permanent and term employees. The three components are:

Social Security Benefits,  
Basic Benefit Plan, and  
Thrift Savings Plan Benefits (TSP).

The first available part of the retirement benefit is Social Security. It provides monthly payments if you are retired and have reached at least age 62, monthly benefits if you become disabled, monthly benefits for your eligible survivors, and a lump sum benefit upon your death. The basic benefit portion is financed by a very small contribution from the employee and from the Government. Basic Plan Benefits are monthly payments depending on the employee's pay and length of service. The third part of the benefit, TSP is a tax-deferred retirement savings and investment plan that offers the same type of savings and tax benefits that many private corporations offer their employees in 401 (K) plans. After a specific waiting period, new employees may elect to enroll with several options from which to choose. *A temporary employee pays Social Security Benefits only.*

**Leave Accrual:** Employees accrue annual, sick and shore leave as follows. Annual and sick leave are accrued per pay period. A pay period is every two weeks.

Annual leave - based on length of government service

4 hours per pay period for 0-3 years of government service  
6 hours per pay period for 3-15 years of government service  
8 hours per pay period for 15+ years of government service

Sick leave - 4 hours per pay period

Shore leave - 8 hours for each 15 days the ship is in excess of 50 miles from its home port

Previous federal government employment, including active duty military time with an honorable discharge is counted toward government service. Retired military only receive credit for specific campaigns and medals after verification.

Pay - is based on an annual salary listed on the attached pay sheet. Overtime varies for ship to ship, but as a rule of thumb, it is about 50% of the annual salary. This may vary quite a bit depending on what ship the employee is on.

## **CAREERS WITH NOAA**

Department of Commerce (DOC), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Office of Marine and Aviation Operations (OMAO), offers excellent career opportunities for civilians in the NOAA Fleet.

**YOU MUST BE A U.S. CITIZEN TO APPLY**

### **POSITION TYPE**

**Permanent:** An appointment with no time limitation. Full benefits.

**Term:** An appointment for a period of more than one (1) year but not more than four (4) years. Full benefits.

**Temporary:** An appointment to meet a short-term employment need, expect to last less than one (1) year. Does not provide health, life or retirement benefits.

### **ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**

**DESCRIPTION OF WORK:** The Engineering Department is responsible for performing the following functions: operating all of the ship's engineering systems, such as propulsion, fuel, electric power, refrigeration, ventilation, air-conditioning, and sanitation; maintaining all engineering systems in the ship and its boats; providing general engineering support for all departments and ship operations; maintaining inventories of equipment, tools, parts, and consumable supplies; and preparing fueling plan and conducting fueling operations in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and good marine practice.

### **LICENSE AND EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENT - LICENSED PERSONNEL**

<b>RATING</b>	<b>QUALIFYING LICENSE (Must have appropriate HP)</b>	<b>YEARS OF EXPERIENCE</b>
Chief Engineer	CH/E - UNL	1 as 1st AE
	CH/E - LTD Oceans	
1st Asst. Engineer	Those qualifying for CE and:	1 as 2nd AE
	1 AE - UNL	
	2 AE - UNL	
	3 AE - UNL	
	CH/E - LTD N.C.**	

	AE - LTD**	
2nd Asst. Engineer	Those qualifying for 1AE and:	1 as 3rd AE
	CH/E - LTD N.C. *	
	AE - LTD *	
3rd Asst. Engineer	Those qualifying for 2AE and:	none
	DDE - UNL HP*	

\* Tonnage limitations will not be disqualifying.

\*\* These licenses do not qualify for positions on Class I vessels.

#### NOTES ON LICENSES AND QUALIFICATIONS:

For 2nd Assistant Engineer and above, must have experience standing watches as engineer in charge, directing the activities of assigned engineering watch personnel and performing engineering systems maintenance and repair work.

For 3rd Assistant Engineer, license of appropriate horsepower is sufficient to meet qualifications.

Licenses for uninspected fishing vessels and mobile offshore drilling units (MODUS) will not be qualifying for NOAA.

#### ENDORSEMENT AND EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR UNLICENSED PERSONNEL

RATING	ENDORSEMENT	YEARS OF EXPERIENCE
Junior Engineer	JE or above	2
Oiler	Oiler or above	1
Wiper	None	0

The following are UNLICENSED ratings not in the normal line of promotion:

RATING	ENDORSEMENT	YEARS OF EXPERIENCE
Engine Utilityman	Oiler or above	6 months as oiler

"QMED-Any Rating" endorsement is minimally qualifying for all UNLICENSED engine room ratings; however, years of experience requirements must still be met.

## NOTES ON QUALIFICATIONS:

Oiler: Experience may have been acquired in the performance of recognized trades which include duties aboard ship or in the trades associated with operation of heavy propulsion

machinery or stationary engines such as locomotive, power plant, steam generators, etc. Must possess a valid USCG endorsement for Oiler.

Engine Utilityman: Experience must show knowledge of small engines and/or general mechanical ability. Must possess a valid USCG endorsement for Oiler, and six (6) months experience as an Oiler.

Junior Engineer: Experience must indicate a good understanding of auxiliary equipment operation and repair. Experience does not necessarily have to have been gained aboard ship but should show competence in those types of equipment with which he/she will normally work aboard ship. Must possess a valid USCG endorsement for Junior Engineer, and one (1) year as an oiler and/or engine utilityman.

## QUALITY OF EXPERIENCE

One (1) year of the required years of experience must have been at the next lower rating aboard a NOAA vessel or other comparable position, except for the Engine Utilityman ratings, which is six (6) months.

## SUBSTITUTION OF EDUCATION FOR EXPERIENCE

Graduation from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy (engineering) or from the U.S. Naval Academy, U.S. Coast Guard Academy, other approved State Marine Academy, the engineering class of a nautical schoolship approved by the U.S. Coast Guard Commandant, or other equivalent training or education may be substituted for a total of three (3) years experience at any rating. Any education or training resulting in issuance of a 3<sup>rd</sup> Assistant Engineer endorsement is equivalent to three (3) years experience.

Successful completion of a senior high school with four (4) half-year courses in mathematics, physics, mechanical drawing or drafting, general science, shop mathematics, machine shop, auto mechanics, or other related courses may be substituted for six (6) months experience. Successful completion of full time study in related subjects at a vocational school above the high school level may be substituted on the basis of one (1) month for each month of experience for a maximum of one (1) year.

## DECK DEPARTMENT

**DESCRIPTION OF WORK:** The Deck Department is responsible for performing the following functions: maintaining ship exterior and interior spaces; maintaining and operating deck machinery and boats; mooring and anchoring the ship; loading; unloading; and stowing supplies and equipment; and standing watches. The Deck Department performs mission-related activities, such as rigging, deployment, and retrieval of oceanographic and hydrographic systems including moorings, towed arrays, buoys, side-scan sonar sensors, CTD systems, nets, tows, and other

sampling devices. They may also build, rig, and maintain mission-related shore side facilities such as electronic navigation towers, tide gauges, and visual stations.

### EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS - DECK

RATING	YEARS OF EXPERIENCE
Ordinary Seaman/General Vessel Asst.	0
Able Bodied Seaman	1
Deck Utilityman/Seaman Surveyor	2
Chief Boatswain	5

Experience includes such activities as: small boat handling; ship maintenance and upkeep; line handling and warping during berthing and departing movement of vessels; and handling of deck equipment and supplies.

### QUALITY OF EXPERIENCE - DECK

In general, one (1) year of the required years of experience must have been at the next lower rating in the normal line of promotion aboard a NOAA vessel or other comparable position. The full text of NOAA qualifications for deck positions is available at the EASC, Human Resource Division Office.

### SUBSTITUTION OF EDUCATION FOR EXPERIENCE - DECK (OTHER)

Successful completion of high school may be substituted for six (6) months of the required experience. Each successfully completed year of full time study in an institution above high school level in navigation, seamanship, and/or other maritime studies, may be substituted for six (6) months experience. Part-time study is prorated. Substitution may be made only through the ratings of Deck Utilityman and Seaman Surveyor.

## LICENSES/ENDORSEMENTS - DECK

Applicants or employees above the rating of Ordinary Seaman or General Vessel Assistant must have a U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariner's Document endorsed for Able Seaman-Unlimited, Able Seaman-Limited, Able Seaman-Special, or equivalent endorsement as specified in title 46 C.F.R. Section 12.05-7(c) and (d). Endorsements for Able Seaman-Offshore Supply Vessel, Able Seaman-Sail or Able Seaman-Fishing Industry are not qualifying.

### DECK (FISHERMAN)

**DESCRIPTION OF WORK:** The Deck Department is responsible for performing the following functions: maintaining ship exterior and interior spaces; maintaining and operating deck machinery and boats; mooring and anchoring the ship; loading; unloading; stowing supplies and equipment; and standing watches. On fisheries research vessels the Deck Department is also responsible for performing the following: handling, deploying, and recovering a variety of standard and experimental fishing gear and associated scientific equipment; constructing, assembling, maintaining, and repairing fishing gear; and landing, disposition, and processing of the catch.

### EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS - DECK (FISHERMAN)

RATING	YEARS OF EXPERIENCE
Ordinary Fisherman	0
Fisherman	1#
Skilled Fisherman	2
*Lead Fisherman	3
Chief Boatswain (Fisherman)	5

\* Not in normal line of promotion

# At least six (6) months of this experience must have been performing fishing activities.

Experience includes such activities as: small boat handling; ship maintenance and upkeep; line handling and warping during berthing and departing movement of vessels; and handling of deck equipment and supplies. At the Fisherman rating and above, experience must include: fishing gear handling, construction or assembly, and repair, including net mending, aboard either commercial fishing vessels or fishing research vessels. Demonstration of the needed skills may be required.

## QUALITY OF EXPERIENCE - DECK (FISHERMAN)

In general one (1) year of the required years of experience must have been at the next lower rating in the normal line of promotion aboard a NOAA vessel or other comparable position. The full text of NOAA qualifications for deck-fishing positions is available at the EASC, Human Resource Division Office.

## SUBSTITUTION OF EDUCATION FOR EXPERIENCE - DECK (FISHERMAN)

Successful completion of high school may be substituted for six months of the required experience. Each successfully completed academic year of full time study in an institution above the high school level which offers a curriculum including "hands on" experience in such areas as net-mending, handling fishing gear, wire splicing and other fishing-related activities, may be substituted for six (6) months of the required experience for ratings up to and including Skilled Fisherman. Part-time study is prorated. Substitution may be made only through rating of Skilled Fisherman.

## LICENSES/ENDORSEMENTS - DECK (FISHERMAN)

None required.

## SURVEY DEPARTMENT

**DESCRIPTION OF WORK:** The Survey Department is responsible for performing the following functions: oceanographic and survey data acquisition and processing operations; technical assistance to program personnel; administering the safekeeping and transmittal of data; and maintaining oceanographic and survey instruments.

## EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS

RATING	YEARS OF EXPERIENCE
Junior Survey Technician	1
Assistant Survey Technician	2
Survey Technician	3
Senior Survey Technician	4
Chief Survey Technician	5

Experience serving on a ship, launch or field party engaged in oceanographic or survey operations performing such activities as: operating and monitoring instruments, including annotating records and recording data; assisting in the staging and set-up during preparations for, and at the completion of, oceanographic and survey operations; performing oceanographic and/or survey observations, measurements, and calculations; assisting in the preparation, installation, deployment and recovery of oceanographic and/or survey equipment and instruments; and processing oceanographic and/or survey data.

#### QUALITY OF EXPERIENCE

One (1) year of the required years of experience must have been at the next lower rating aboard a NOAA vessel or other comparable position, except for Junior Survey Technician. Experience to qualify for Junior Survey Technician positions must be evaluated using the experience requirements described above and the duties described in the work statement for Junior Survey Technician.

#### SUBSTITUTION OF EDUCATION FOR EXPERIENCE

The successful completion of a high school curriculum which has included four half-year courses in any combination of the following subjects may be substituted for one (1) year of experience: mathematics (algebra, geometry, trigonometry, etc.), surveying, chemistry, physics, computer science, or earth sciences. Academic study successfully completed in a school above high school level may be substituted for experience on the basis of one (1) year of study for nine (9) months of experience, provided a minimum of six (6) semester/nine (9) quarter hours per year are shown in courses closely related to the duties of the position. The courses include engineering, physics, plane or advance surveying, geophysics, geography, navigation, engineering drafting or graphics, mathematics, oceanography, biology, cartography, chemistry, computer programming, etc. Part-time study is prorated.

Education can only be substituted up to and including the Assistant Survey Technician rating.

#### LICENSES/ ENDORSEMENTS

None required.

## STEWARD DEPARTMENT

**DESCRIPTION OF WORK:** The Steward Department is responsible for performing the following functions: planning and preparing menus; ordering, preparing and serving food; maintaining galleys, messes, storage areas, living areas, and other assigned interior spaces in an orderly and sanitary condition; providing clean linens; and maintaining inventories of mess provisions and other supplies.

### EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS

RATING	YEARS OF EXPERIENCE
Messman/General Vessel Asst.	0
* Laundryman	0
Second Cook	1 year of general
Chief Steward	3 years of specialized

\* Not in normal line of promotion.

General experience may be acquired as messman and galley helper when it includes serving food, cleaning galley messes, pantry, refrigerators, range, and mess equipment. The experience may be gained aboard a ship or in restaurants, etc.

Specialized experience includes such activities as: general cooking and baking, food selection, preparation and serving (10 or more persons); dietetics; meal planning and scheduling; leading and training other employees in the preparation and serving of food; preparing required records and reports, etc.

For the rating of Chief Steward, the experience must include planning menus, ordering and purchasing food, inspecting and storing foodstuffs, maintaining inventories, preparing estimates for mess supplies, and the ability to supervise a group of employees.

### QUALITY OF EXPERIENCE

In general one (1) year of the required years of experience must have been at the next lower rating aboard an NOAA vessel or other comparable position. The full text of NOAA qualification for Steward Department positions is available at the EASC, Human Resource Division Office.

### SUBSTITUTION OF EDUCATION FOR EXPERIENCE

Course work successfully completed at a military, vocational, or other culinary school above the high school level may be substituted for experience on a month-for-month basis. Other directly related course work, such as community college courses, may be substituted on the basis of 30 semester/45 quarter hours for nine (9) months of experience. Part-time study is prorated. No substitution may be made for more than one (1) year of general experience and one (1) year of specialized experience.

#### LICENSES/ ENDORSEMENTS

None required.

**Annual Pay Rates: Effective 02 July 2000**  
(does not include overtime or penalty pay)

**ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**

	Class of Vessel				
	I	II	III	IV	V
Chief Eng. (DW)	109,908	102,451	100,050	90,041	80,037
Chief Eng. (WS)	85,866	80,037	78,172	70,353	62,535
1 <sup>st</sup> Asst Eng. (DW)	65,700	62,101	60,889	54,797	48,709
1 <sup>st</sup> Asst Eng (WS)	51,315	48,508	47,566	42,807	38,051
2 <sup>nd</sup> Asst Eng (DW)	59,615	55,998	54,801	49,318	43,840
2 <sup>nd</sup> Asst Eng (WS)	46,563	43,756	42,814	38,533	34,251
3 <sup>rd</sup> Asst Eng (DW)	53,527	49,928	48,727	43,854	38,982
3 <sup>rd</sup> Asst Eng (WS)	41,810	38,989	38,076	34,266	30,459
Jr Unlicensed Engineer - All Classes - 28,488					
Utility Man (Engine) - All Classes - 26,006					
Oiler (Diesel) - All Classes - 24,254					
Wiper - All Classes - 20,925					

### **STEWARD DEPARTMENT**

	Class of Vessel				
	I	II	III	IV	V
Chief Steward	35,215	33,539	30,492	27,721	27,721
Chief Cook	28,725	28,725	N/A	N/A	N/A
2 <sup>nd</sup> Cook - All Classes - 23,283					

### **DECK DEPARTMENT**

	Class of Vessel				
	I	II	III	IV	V
Chief Boatswain	37,591	37,591	34,171	31,061	31,061
Lead Fisherman	29,535	29,535	29,535	28,126	28,126
Bosun Group Leader	29,535	29,535	29,535	28,126	28,126
Seaman Surveyor - All Classes - 25,915					
Skilled Fisherman - All Classes - 25,915					
Deck Utilityman - All Classes - 25,163					
Able Bodied Seaman - All Classes - 22,520					
Fisherman - All Classes - 22,520					
Ordinary Seaman - All Classes - 20,925					
Ordinary Fisherman - All Classes - 20,925					
*General Vessel Assistant (GVA) - All Classes - 20,925					

\*GVA is a multi-departmental position

### **SURVEY DEPARTMENT**

	Class of Vessel				
	I	II	III	IV	V
Chief Survey Tech	37,591	37,591	34,171	31,061	31,061
Sr. Survey Tech	31,324	31,324	28,473	28,473	28,473
Survey Tech - All Classes -	26,101				
Asst. Survey Tech - All Classes -	23,725				
Jr. Survey Tech - All Classes -	21,567				

### **DECK OFFICER**

	Class of Vessel				
	I	II	III	IV	V
Master (WS)	92,199	92,199	92,199	82,979	73,759
1 <sup>st</sup> Officer	52,530	49,643	48,691	43,821	38,952
2 <sup>nd</sup> Officer	47,669	44,789	43,832	39,449	35,065
3 <sup>rd</sup> Officer	42,792	39,931	38,963	35,065	31,171

**NOAA Ships Under the Jurisdiction of the  
Office of Marine and Aviation Operations  
Marine Operations Center  
Ship Horsepower, Tonnages, Size, and Home Ports**  
Additional information can be found at: <http://www.moc.noaa.gov>

RONALD H. BROWN (R104)  
Class IA  
2100 Tons, 6000 HP, 274 ft  
Home Port: Charleston, South Carolina

ALBATROSS IV (R342)  
Class III  
1100 Tons, 1100 HP, 187 ft  
Home Port: Woods Hole, Massachusetts

RAINIER (S221)  
Class II  
1600 Tons, 2400 HP, 231 ft  
Home Port: Seattle, Washington

TOWNSEND CROMWELL (R443)  
Class IV  
560 Tons, 800 HP, 163 ft  
Home Port: Honolulu, Hawaii

MILLER FREEMAN (R223)  
Class II  
1500 Tons, 2150 HP, 215 ft  
Home Port: Seattle, Washington

DAVID STARR JORDAN (R444)  
Class IV  
870 Tons, 1100 HP, 171 ft  
Home Port: San Diego, California

WHITING (S329)  
Class III  
696 Tons, 1600 HP, 163 ft  
Home Port: Norfolk, Virginia

DELAWARE II (R445)  
Class IV  
760 Tons, 1200 HP, 155 ft  
Home Port: Woods Hole, Massachusetts

MCARTHUR (S330)  
Class III  
995 Tons, 1600 HP, 175 ft  
Home Port: Seattle, Washington

FERREL (R492)  
Class IV  
350 Tons, 750 HP, 133 ft  
Home Port: Charleston, South Carolina

OREGON II (R332)  
Class III  
703 Tons, 1800 HP, 170 ft  
Home Port: Pascagoula, Mississippi

JOHN N. COBB (R552)  
Class V  
185 Tons, 325 HP, 93 ft  
Home Port: Seattle, Washington

KA'IMIMOANA (R333)  
Class III  
2000 Tons, 1600 HP, 224 ft  
Home Port: Honolulu, Hawaii

RUDE (S590)  
Class V  
150 Tons, 800 HP, 90 ft  
Home Port: Norfolk, Virginia

GORDON GUNTER (R335)  
Class III  
2000 Tons, 1600 HP, 224 ft  
Home Port: Pascagoula, Mississippi